COMPONENTS OF AN EXEMPLARY BOX-AND-WHISKER PLOT
Guidelines for Creating Data Displays

Reference: Maryland Mathematics Content Standards (May 19, 2000), Indicator 4.8.2

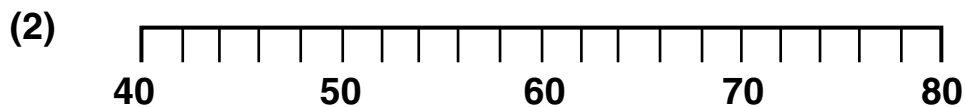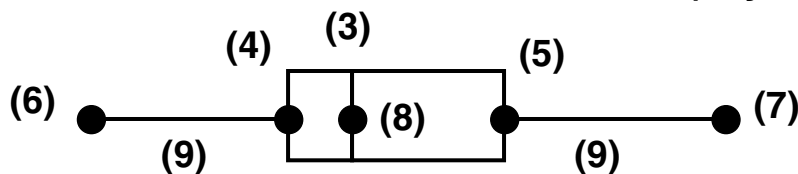## Components of a box-and-whisker plot:

1   Main title for the graph
2   Horizontal line or line segment with a scale that accommodates the extremes of the data in equal intervals
3   Vertical line at the median
4   Vertical line at the lower quartile (median of the lower half)
5   Vertical line at the upper quartile (median of the upper half)
6   Point at the lower extreme (the least value in the data set)
7   Point at the upper extreme (the greatest value in the data set)
8   Rectangular box connecting both quartiles and containing the median
9   Whiskers connecting the extreme points to the box

Notes:
(1)   A box-and-whisker plot can be constructed above or below the scale.
(2)   The scale can be presented on a line, such as the example below.

(1) *AGES OF TWENTIETH-CENTURY U.S. VICE-PRESIDENTSAT INAUGURATION (in years)*

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